



May 25, 2011

TO: FCC

The Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber (Hispanic Chamber) is dedicated to working with all members of the community to increase the economic advancement of Latinos in Oregon and Southwest Washington. The Hispanic Chamber has 850 members and is the fifth largest chamber of any kind in Oregon.

The key to our members' economic advancement is access to information, technology and telecommunications. The Hispanic Chamber is pleased to support the merger of AT&T and T-Mobile. We anticipate improved technology and improved services through the delivery of 4G mobile broadband.

In Oregon, Hispanics are the largest ethnic minority representing 12% of the state's population. Hispanics invest heavily in both the Portland area and the nation. According to a recent United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce study, there are over 1.5 million Hispanic-owned firms in the United States generating more than \$200 billion in sales.

The expanded deployment of 4G LTE mobile broadband that will result from the AT&T/T-Mobile merger is critical infrastructure for Hispanics and Hispanic-owned businesses. Recent research conducted by the Pew Hispanic Center reveals that Latinos are less likely than the general community to access the Internet or have a home broadband connection. Hispanics who use their cell phone to access the Internet are six times more likely to not have a home broadband connection than a the general population cell phone user. As a result, Latinos are increasingly relying upon mobile broadband to access the Internet and bridge this "digital divide."

On behalf of our members in Oregon and southwestern Washington, the Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber urges approval of the AT&T/T-Mobile merger.

We appreciate your consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gale Castillo". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Gale" and last name "Castillo" clearly distinguishable.

Gale Castillo
President